(c) The programmes of the Ministry are being implemented in ail the States and Union Territories. The extent of solar energy usage depends on the size and population of the State, the level of electrification, availability of other energy sources, and the habits of the people. Among the States which have achieved a significant level of solar energy usage are Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, West Bengal, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

Providing free power connection to BPL

†3658. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:
SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had announced a new scheme to provide 100% power subsidy for single point power connection to households falling under Below Poverty Line;

(b) whether the Minimum Needs Programme for rural electrification would be merged in the new scheme;

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the same benefits to farmers; and

(d) if so, from which date the scheme will come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Anew scheme "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana" for Rural Electricity Infrastructure and Household Electrification has been launched for the attainment of the National Common Minimum Programme of providing access to electricity to all rural household in five years. The schemes would be implemented through Rural Electrification Corporation.

Under this scheme 90% Capital Subsidy would be provided for projects for

(i) Creation of Rural Electricity Distribution Backbone (REDB) with one 33/11 kV (or 66/11 kV) sub-station in every block appropriately linked to the State Transmission System.

(ii) Creation of Village Electricity Infrastructure (VEI) for electrification of all un-electrified villages/habitations and provision of distribution transformer(s) of appropriate capacity in every village/habitation.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(iii) Decentralized Distributed Generation (DDG) and Supply System from central sources for villages/habitations where grid supply is not cost effective and where Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources would not be providing electricity through their programme(s).

The scheme *inter alia* provides for financing of electrification of all un-electrified Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country with 100% capital subsidy as per norms of Kutir Jyoti Programme in all rural habitations.

The scheme covers the entire country and funds would be provided for electrification of un-electrified villages and un-electrified habitations.

The above scheme merges the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) for rural electrification.

Setting up new power plants in Andhra Pradesh

3659. SHRIGIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the energy produced from the power plants situated in Andhra Pradesh:

(b) whether there is any plan to set up new plants in Andhra Pradesh to produce energy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): The details of energy
generated from the power plants in all sectors situated in Andhra Pradesh during the year 2004-05 is 62613.91 Million Units (MUs). The sector-wise generation is as under:

Sector wise	Energy (MUs)
State sector	29171.62
Private sector	8162.84
Central sector	25279.45

(b) and (c) Electricity being a concurrent subject, supply and distribution of electricity is the responsibility of the State Government/State Power Utility concerned. The Central Government only supplements the efforts of States by setting up power plants through Central Power Sector Undertakings, in which the States have entitlements.